

**INDIANA BOARD OF FIREFIGHTER PERSONNEL STANDARDS  
AND EDUCATION**

**MINUTES**

**DECEMBER 8, 2008 10 AM  
FIREFIGHTER UNION HALL  
CONFERENCE ROOM  
748 MASSACHUSETTS AVE  
INDPLS IN 46204**

**A. BOARD CALLED TO ORDER AT 10:05 AM**

**B. ROLL CALL**

Present

James Greeson

Thomas Hanify

Jack Kerney Sr. (arrived 10:30am)

Jerry Nulliner

Candice Ashby

Jeff Hayes

Absent

Bradley Thatcher

Ab Crosby

Darrick Scott

**C. MINUTES REPORT FROM OCTOBER 27, 2008 AND  
THE MINUTES FROM THE PUBLIC HEARING ON  
OCTOBER 27, 2008.**

Jeff Hayes made a motion to approve as printed and distributed.  
Candice Ashby seconded. Motion passed.

**D. VARIANCES**

1. Jan Harkner-Abbs requested a variance for Wilderness Rescue Technician. She currently holds the national certification for Search and Rescue Technician 2.

Staff recommends approval based on training.

Jeff Hayes made a motion to approve. Tom Hanify seconded. Motion passed

2. Mark Culver requested variances for Fire Officer I, Fire Officer 2, Fire Officer 3, and Fire Officer 4, based on completion of an Associate of Applied Fire Science Degree from Ivy Tech and he is 1 class from earning his Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Management from Wesleyan College.

Staff recommends approval based on education and experience.

Jeff Hayes made a motion to approve. Candice Ashby seconded. Motion passed.

3. Chris Hall requested variances for Wilderness Rescue Awareness and Wilderness Rescue Operations.

Staff recommends denial. At this time, the SAR program is not compatible with the NFPA.

Tom Hanify made a motion to table pending more documentation. He would like a letter from Mr. Hall explaining the compatibility of his training to the NFPA standard. James Greeson seconded. Motion passed.

4. Doug Thomas requested a variance for Wilderness Rescue Operations.

Staff recommends denial. At this time, SAR is not compatible with the NFPA 1670 or NFPA 1006.

Tom Hanify made a motion to table pending more documentation. He would like a letter from Mr. Thomas explaining the compatibility of his training to the NFPA standard. James Greeson seconded. Motion passed.

5. Jason Meek (tabled 10-08) has submitted documentation showing continued education for Driver Operator Wildland and Wildland Firefighter I/II. Board requested documentation of continued education in the these fields.

Staff has no recommendation at this time.

Jerry Nulliner made a motion that he would contact Mr. Meek and talk to him. Tom Hanify seconded. Motion passed.

6. Russell Futrell requested a variance for Public Information Officer based on work experience. He has been the public spokesperson at incidents and has had training and experience in public speaking. Staff recommends approval. He has had 2 years of on the job experience in Public relation.

Tom Hanify made a motion to approve. James Greeson seconded. Motion passed.

7. Casey Cassidy requested variances for Confined Space Rescue Awareness, Hazardous Material Operations, Rope Rescue Awareness, and Trench Rescue Awareness. He has completed course through IFIA, and Wayne Twp. Staff recommends denial of the rescue awareness. His certifications date 1997 and 1998 and he has included no continued education.

Tom Hanify made a motion to table pending continued education. Jeff Hayes seconded. Motion passed.

Staff recommend approval for the Hazardous Material Operations. He has Hazardous Material Awareness and Hazardous Material Technician.

Tom Hanify made a motion to approve. Jeff Hayes seconded. Motion passed.

#### **E. RECIPROCITY REQUESTS**

1. Robert Cable requested reciprocity for Mandatory Firefighter, Basic Firefighter, Firefighter 1 and Firefighter 2. He took his Probationary training in New York. This training is equivalent to the Essentials Firefighter 1 and Firefighter 2 training. He has supplied documentation of CPR and Safety Driving. Staff recommends approval. New York training is equivalent to the Indiana requirements.

James Greeson made a motion to approve pending completion of SIDS training. Tom Hanify seconded. Motion passed.

#### **F. APPEAL REQUESTS**

1. Mark Brown appealed the decision to deny his Firefighter I/II certification based on his written test score. He scored 69% and he passed his practical skills exams.

Jeff Hayes made a motion to grant the appeal and forward the request to Judge Teegarden. Tom Hanify seconded. Motion passed.

**G. STATE FIRE MARSHAL REPORT- JAMES GREESON**

For anyone familiar with the triage tag program that the state started, the packets have been delivered to the state and we are starting to distribute them. The first six districts are starting to get them. The contents of the packets are triage tags. They are color coded for the treatment of the patient. There will be a train-the trainer program and at that time, the departments will be given their packets. Ambulance providers will be given these also.

After the last meeting, I asked people what they would like to have me report on. One of the questions was involving investigations. What type of fires are we called in on, what goes on etc. We get called regularly. We are called in on fire deaths and firefighter injuries. We have had several prosecutions in cases that we have worked on in Martin County, Carol County and Stark County. Also, we just released media information on home heating and we will be having problems with this. We do every year. Try to get people and utility companies working together to prevent this.

**H. HOMELAND SECURITY TRAINING DIVISION  
REPORT; DIRECTOR BRADLEY THATCHER.**

No report at this time.

**I. CERTIFICATION BRANCH CHIEF, JOHN BUCKMAN**

The applications have a space on the bottom for the Fire Chief signature. There is nothing in the law that states the fire chief must sign the application and we are going to be removing this from the applications. We issued new procedures. Practicals

need to be submitted at the same time that the written tests are returned. On November 15, we had a pan flu exercise at MUTC and it went really well. We mobilized D10 and we learnt a lot that will be utilized.

We have trained over 1000 people in the new live fire trailer so far. Comments are that it is more realistic than any one thought. There has been over 100 people so far go through the hazmat trailer.

I have submitted a documentation asking for guidance from you for.

What is a college degree worth. If you have certification through a fire dept. a college will give you so many credit hours, but what is a college degree worth to a fire department? A Masters degree would equal Fire Instructor II/III, Fire Officer I, what kind of information do you need so that you could approve a variance for this.

Legal stated that the board could not give an advisory opinion. John states that there is a lot of wasted time going back and forth so if we had some guidance, it could get done the first time.

Jerry Nulliner stated that if staff made a guideline and requested enough information that staff would be agreeable to grant the variance then the board would be comfortable. The Board goes by the staff recommendation. It would be up to staff to determine if enough information is there to determine the certification requested.

## **J. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS- JUDGE TEEGARDEN**

1. Administrative Cause No. 08-02, Non- final order of dismissal. Louis Scarpellini. Variance was approved based on additional information.

Tom Hanify made a motion to approve the non-final order. James Greeson seconded. Motion passed.

2. Administrative Cause No. 08-04, Non-Final order of revocation of certification. Jerry Stigall. No petition for review has been filed.

James Greeson made a motion to approve the non-final order.  
Tom Hanify seconded. Motion passed.

**K. OLD BUSINESS**

1. NFPA Standard changes, Jerry Nulliner

Jim Abraham spoke for John Buckman. What John would like to do is set up a committee to see what NFPA standards are changing and if we should adopt the new standards.

The Board directed staff to form the committee and submit the results to the board. The meetings will be posted. Jeff Hayes will serve on this committee to represent the board.

Mara Snyder made a suggestion that the Board create a standing NFPA committee to keep current on changes in the standards.

2 Marty McCrindle, Public Safety Instructor, Elkhart Area Career Center.

Mr. McCrindle requested that the teaching facilities, career facilities etc, be allowed to keep their FDID numbers. The students can take the education to a fire department, and be eligible through variance or whatever, get their certification based on prior education. Mr. McCrindle stated that he has been told that the FDID numbers are going away and he is requesting for these educational facilities to be able to keep their numbers. It gives credibility to the facility.

He is looking for board recognition to support the training education institutes in general and support the Fire Marshal giving FDID's. It associates them with the Fire Marshal office.

**L. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Proposed dates and locations of 2009 meetings

**PROPOSED MEETING DATES AND LOCATIONS FOR 2009**

DATE

LOCATION

JANUARY 26 2009	6PM	RICHMOND FD 101 S 5 <sup>TH</sup> ST CITY BLDG RICHMOND IN 47374 (765-983-7264)
MARCH 9 2009	6PM	VINCENNES TWP FD 1265 S HART ST VINCENNES IN 47591 (812-882-4261)
APRIL 27 2009	6PM	RENSSELAER VFD BOX 145 RENSSELAER IN 47978 (219-866-5040)
JUNE 18 (THURS)	10AM	IVFA CONVENTION HOLIDAY INN NORTH INDIANAPOLIS
JULY 27 2009	6PM	TERRE HAUTE FD 25 SPRUCE ST TERRE HAUTE IN 47807 (812-234-8653)
SEPT 14 2009	6PM	MARION FD 301 S BRANSON ST MARION IN 46952 (765-668-4474)
OCTOBER 26	6PM	SCOTTSBURG VFD 185 S LAKE RD SCOTTSBURG IN 47170 (812-752-7287)
DECEMBER 7 2009	6PM	GREENSBURG FD 528 N IRELAND ST GREENSBURG IN 47240 (812-663-8671)

2. Letter from Ronald Privett pertaining to Ft Wayne Fire Officer I.

December 4, 2008

Members of the Indiana Board of Firefighter Personnel  
Standards and Education

The Fort Wayne Fire Department is asking the Board for the following consideration.

Since 2002 the Fort Wayne Fire Department has used the States' Written Fire Officer I test as the first step in our promotional process for the rank of Lieutenant, which is the entry level rank in our Command structure. The Candidate must receive a passing score from the State on the Exam to be eligible to continue on to the Assessment Center. The Assessment Center consists of a timed Oral Tactical Exercise, a Training Exercise and a Subordinate Counseling Exercise. As you may recognize, these Exercises are also covered in the Practical Skills for the Fire Officer I certification along with several others.

Additionally, earlier this year the Fort Wayne Fire Department adopted a Promotional Process Policy which list the educational requirements needed to be eligible to assess to the different Command ranks within our Department. The requirements come from a list of identified classes and in all rank positions; we have mirrored the State requirement for certification of Fire Officer I and Fire Officer II. For our Privates to be eligible to assess to the rank of Lieutenant they must hold a State certification for Fire Officer I (Strategy and Tactics / Instructor I) as well as State Certification for Safety Officer. For the rank of Captain, we require Fire Officer II and Instructor II / III.

The Fort Wayne Fire Department has on list 16 Firefighters who have passed the Fire Officer I written exam and have been promoted to Lieutenant and in some cases to the rank of Captain.

The Fort Wayne Fire Department would like the Board to consider recognizing the past written Fire Officer I test scores, allow us to have these Officers complete the Practical Skills Evaluations and upon successful completion of the Skills along with proper application for certification; issue the State Fire Officer I certification for those who have met the prerequisites and allow the others to have it issued when they meet those prerequisites. This request is being made on behalf of our commitment to assist our Officers in becoming the qualified leaders the Fire Service needs for the future safety of our City and the State of Indiana.

Thank you for your consideration on this request.

Sincerely;  
Ronald A. Privett  
Assistant Chief  
Fort Wayne Fire Department Division of Training and Development  
(260) 427-1280



The Board stated that the individual student must file for a variance for the certification requested. They can use the same letter, just fill in the name of the individual. The individuals took the state test, but they did not complete the practicals. They need to show that the skills were completed, continued education if over 6 years, and prerequisites have been met. Submit all documentation for variance.

**M. MEETING ADJOURNED 11:45 am**